

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 08843 271553Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 FEAE-00  
DODE-00 XMB-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 /074 W  
-----271556Z 000844 /43

R 271432Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9636  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO USERDA HQS WASHDC  
USERDA HQS GERMANTOWN MD  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY MADRID

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DEPARTMENT PASS EXIM AND COMMERCE FOR MEPD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TECH, BENC, BEXP, ENRG, PFOR, PO, BR, GW  
SUBJECT: GOP/FRG NUCLEAR MATTERS

REF: (A) LISBON 4965 (NOTAL), (B) LISBON 8227 (NOTAL)

1. DURING RECENT TRIP TO BRAZIL, PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER MARIO SOARES SPARKED CONTROVERSY REGARDING POSSIBLE PORTUGUESE-WEST GERMAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT. SOARES TOLD MEDIA THAT PORTUGAL WAS GOING TO SELL URANIUM TO BRAZIL FROM "LARGE NEW FINDS." ON DECEMBER 21 HE WAS ASKED WHETHER PORTUGAL, BY SELLING URANIUM TO BRAZIL, WOULD BE INDIRECT PARTICIPANT IN EXISTING NUCLEAR ACCORD BETWEEN BRAZIL AND FRG. HE REPLIED THAT PORTUGAL WAS "STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF SIGNING A SIMILAR ACCORD WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF WEST GERMANY."

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2. SOARES' STATEMENTS MADE HEADLINE NEWS IN LISBON. THE PRIME MINISTER REPORTEDLY WAS SURPRISED AND IRRITATED BY ALL THE COMMOTION CREATED BY HIS STATEMENT, AND ISSUED A RETRACTION THE SAME DAY. IT READ: "THE TRUTH IS THAT NO ACCORD EXISTS, NO ACCORD IS FORESEEN AND, IN ANY CASE, THE ASSEMBLY OF

THE REPUBLIC WOULD FIRST HAVE TO BE CONSULTED. AND IT HASN'T BEEN. WHAT EXISTS IS SIMPLY TECHNICAL COOPERATION AT VARIOUS LEVELS, INCLUDING THE NUCLEAR, WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND WITH OTHER COUNTRIES LIKE FRANCE, THE UNITED STATES, AND MANY OTHERS."

3. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MINES ROCHA CABRAL AND NUCLEAR ENERGY BOARD'S DIRECTOR OF FUELS AND REACTORS HENRIQUE PICH SEPARATELY TOLD US SUBSEQUENTLY THAT PORTUGAL PLANS TO SELL BRAZIL YELLOW CAKE URANIUM FROM ITS EXISTING STOCKPILES. CABRAL SAID THAT URANIUM WOULD NOT BE NEEDED FOR PORTUGAL'S OWN NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM FOR SOME TIME. PICH SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO NEW URANIUM DISCOVERIES (PORTUGAL'S RESERVES ESTIMATED AT 20,000 TONS), AND NEITHER KNEW OF ANY PROSPECTIVE ACCORD WITH FRG. HOWEVER, GERMAN EMBASSY IN LISBON TOLD US THAT PORTUGUESE HAD DISCUSSED NUCLEAR PROGRAM IN BONN. EMBASSY OFFICER SUGGESTED WE CONTACT STATE SECRETARY HAUNSCHILD IN BONN'S MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH.

4. PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS TELL US THAT NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM HAS BEEN FURTHER DELAYED. GOP HAS DECIDED TO WITHHOLD ANY FINAL DECISION UNTIL A WHITE PAPER IS COMPLETED (BY MARCH OR APRIL 1977) AND SUBMITTED TO ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC. NUCLEAR DIRECTOR PICH BELIEVES THAT, AT BEST, INITIAL LETTERS INVITING BIDS COULD BE SENT OUT ONLY BY MAY OR JUNE 1977, WITH AWARD ANNOUNCED FIRST PART OF 1978.

5. EMBASSY BONN MAY WISH TO FOLLOW UP WITH HAUNSCHILD.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR ENERGY, AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** TECH, BENC, BEXP, ENRG, PFOR, PO, BR, GE, US  
**To:** STATE BONN  
**Type:** TE  
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